**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing Of Claims:**

1.-11. (Canceled)

12. (New) A method for controlling a piezoelectric actuator, comprising:

performing a voltage detection at a specified time of a voltage applied to the piezoelectric actuator in order to produce a detected voltage; and

if a certain variable is present, blocking at least one of the voltage detection and a relaying of the detected voltage value.

13. (New) The method as recited in Claim 12, wherein the detected voltage value is used for at least one of monitoring and forming a controlled variable.

14. (New) The method as recited in Claim 12, wherein the blocking is performed as a function of a fuel pressure.

15. (New) The method as recited in Claim 12, wherein the blocking is carried out as a function of a variable that characterizes an interval between a time the voltage is measured and an of at least one of a charging operation and a discharging operation of the piezoelectric actuator.

16. (New) The method as recited in Claim 12, wherein the blocking is carried out as a function of a triggering duration of the piezoelectric actuator.

17. (New) The method as recited in Claim 12, wherein the blocking is carried out as a function of a charging time of the piezoelectric actuator.

18. (New) The method as recited in Claim 12, wherein the blocking is carried out as a function of a difference between a triggering duration and a charging time of the piezoelectric actuator.

19. (New) The method as recited in Claim 12, wherein the blocking is carried out as a function of a delivery duration of a final control element operated by the piezoelectric actuator.

20. (New) The method as recited in Claim 12, wherein in the event of blocking, the last non-blocked voltage value is used for at least one of a closed-loop control and monitoring.

21. (New) The method as recited in Claim 12, wherein in the event of blocking, the last manipulated variable used prior to blocking is used for open-loop control.

22. (New) An apparatus for controlling a piezoelectric actuator, comprising:

an arrangement for performing a voltage detection at a specified time of a voltage applied to the piezoelectric actuator in order to produce a detected voltage; and

an arrangement for, if a certain variable is present, blocking at least one of the voltage detection and a relaying of the detected voltage value.